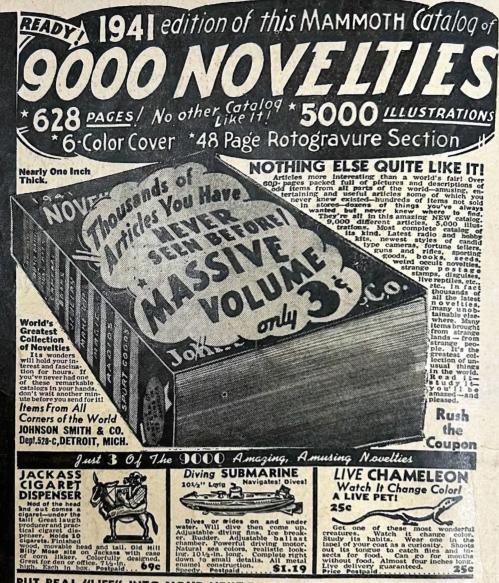


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MEANSI

CAN GO







NOW, TORO ... YOU AND,

I ARE GOING INTO SECRET TRAINING!

















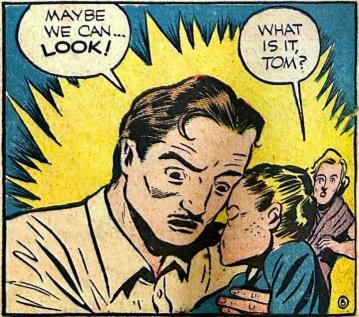




















































CAGES...TORO'S BLAZING HANDS MELT THE PROTECTIVE STEEL CAGE BARS...AND THE BEASTS ARE FREE!









FLOOR THE TORCH TAKES
TO THE AIR AND ROUNDS
UP THE OTHERS!



OF FIRE AROUND THE ARENA, AS TORO'S SKIN DRIES HIS FLAME BRINGS THE BEASTS UNDER CONTROL.



THE TORCH THEN SUBDUES HIS FLAME.

FOOLS! YOU ALMOST WE DIDN'T CAUSED A RIOT IN KNOW IT THE AUDIENCE! WAS AN ACT SOMEONE REPORTED A FIRE HERE!







































































































AND TORO SWOOP DOWN ON EITHER SIDE OF THE FAST MOVING POLICE CAR...

















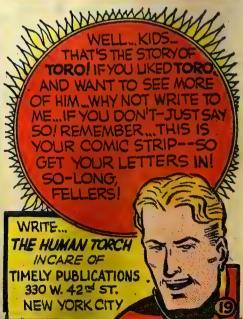












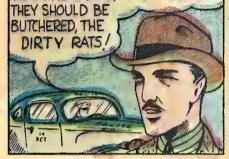




BUT HERE'S AN INTERESTIN'
ARTICLE — SAYS THAT TH'
"FIFTH COLUMN" IS RESPONSIBLE
FOR THE SINKIN' OF THEM FOUR
NEW-FANGLED BATTLESHIPS AN'
DESTROYERS IN TH' NAVY SHIPYARDS AT BALTIMORE!



YES - I READ ABOUT THAT. THEY'VE DONE CONSIDERABLE DAMAGE, I UNDERSTAND - BOMBED A LOT OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY, SHIP-YARDS, ARSENALS, ARMORIES, TRAINING CAMPS, AND THE LIKE. THEY SHOULD BE









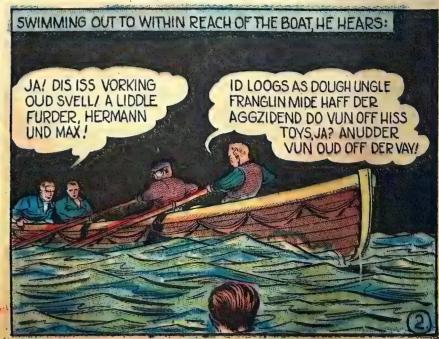


















College Cost Louis

Littly Research Justin

Research Just

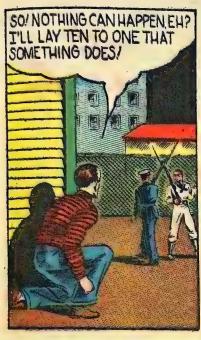












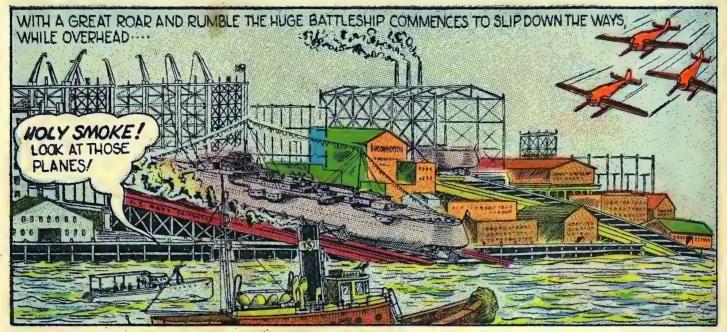










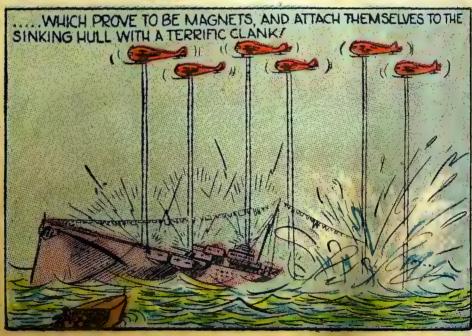


















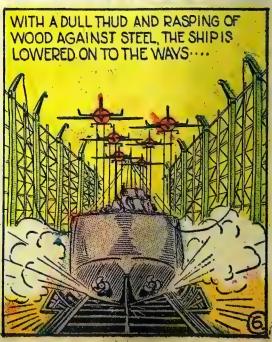






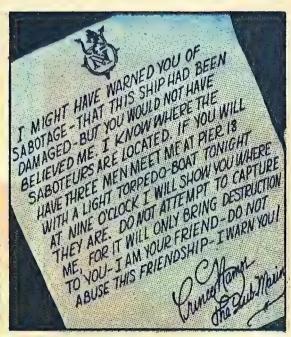


... THEN HE LEAPS INTO THE





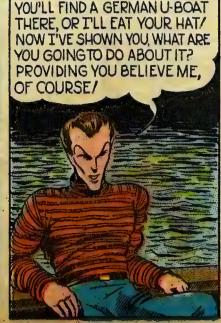


















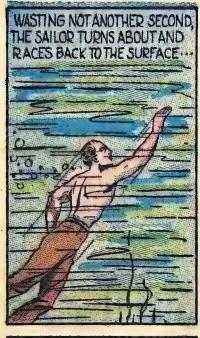


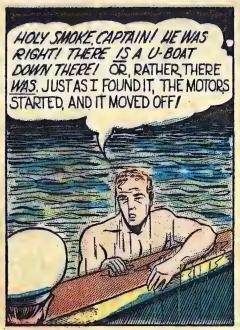


















WELL, IF THAT'S THE WAY YOU FEEL

























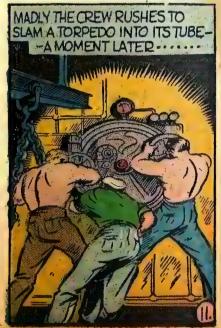


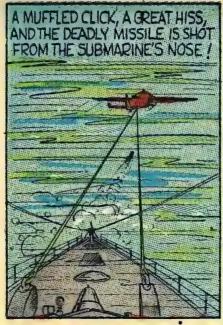




























"He called to my attention the fact that I was letting down my public. As he spoke the room seemed to fill with boys and girls, all shouting hotly that they wanted a new character. Screaming with this artificial fever, I told them all to go to the Devil! At this they rushed in and grabbed me, and I fainted.

"When I awoke, I was lying on a bed of red hot coals. I figured that it must be the large furnace of the building. I was terrified for an instant, until I realized that I could stand the

heat I was burning.

'Outside the door of the furnace I could hear the laughter of my publisher and the children, but it was rapidly fading for the roar of the fire was filling my ears. A hot draft fanned the flames and I could feel myself being drawn up into the chimney. I seemed to float, my body was lighter than the air, and for a horrible minute I found myself hurtling up through the sooty brick chimney.

ARL BURGOS was sitting half way between his drawing board and his typewriter when we barged into his compact little studio. "How's about an interview, Carl?" we asked.

"Fire away!"

We learned that he was born in New York City, in uptown Manhattan, about two dozen years ago. He told us that he had gone to school there and had held every lob he ever had in that city.

We queried him on the HUMAN TORCH. "You'd be surprised how I happened upon the HUMAN TORCH," he said.

FFT was on the Fourth of July last year, a beastly hot day. The heat moved across my drawing board in heavy waves, so thick I could feel it. To make matters worse, I had just had a hot discussion with my publisher. He wanted a new character, something brand new, an angle that had never been done before.

"I was all hot and bothered. I racked my brain until my head began to swim. At my wit's end, I decided to lie down for a while and try to cool off.

I lay there for about fifteen minutes, like a man sick with jungle fever, my pulse pounding. The room seemed to take on a red glow.

Suddenly into the room stormed my publisher, demanding to know where the new character was. In a daze I told him to go to the Devil, that gentleman being rather on my mind. I hoped that he would go away, but he didn't. His fuming only added to the rapidly mounting heat of the room.

IIT IKE any other skyrocket, I shot to a great height in a blazing arc. I was relieved to find that I was gradually drifting back to earth.

"I finally alighted on the roof of an office building, and I quickly ran to cover as my blazing feet were leaving smoking prints on the for roof. In the building I heaved a sigh of relief for I recognized it as the place where my publisher had his office. I believed that if he could do this to me, he should know how to make me normal again. I went to his office, being careful to walk only on the tile flooring.

"I pushed open the frosted glass door and stood face to face with him. The red glow from my body lighted up his face. His astonishment turned to delight and he called the members of his staff. As they all crowded around him he cried, pointing to me, 'There's our new char-

acter, a HUMAN TORCH!

Burned up, I rushed at him, but stumbled. Then the scene laded.

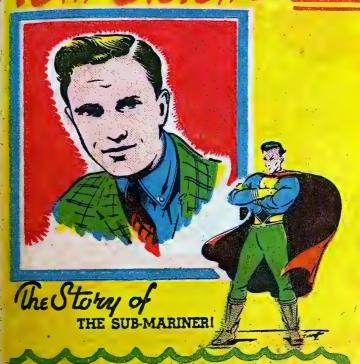
When I regained consciousness, I was lying on the floor of my studio, feeling much better than before it all happened."

"But Carly we smiled, "you tell it as if it had really happened

He looked us squarely in the eyes. "You may not believe me, but my publisher was not a bit surprised when showed him my new feature—the HUMAN TORCH. He acted as if he had known it all the time!"

We left shortly after that, closing the door quietly behind us.

Bil Everel's HURRICANE



Bill Everett's apartment-studio, a dramatic background for the story we hoped to get.

"Hello, Bill," we smiled, "mind if we annoy

you for a while?"

"Come on in," Bill said beaming. "I was hoping someone would drop in on me tonight."

True to style, he made us feel right at home. "We've come to ask you to tell us something about yourself, and how you started to write about the SUB-MARINER. Do you mind?"

"Well." Bill said, "I was born in Newton, Massachusetts, and I'm still young enough to be in that first draft—if and when. When I was very young my folks went out to Arizona. We stayed there until after I finished high school.

"But, my folks decided to go back to Massachusetts, and I decided to go back to school. I went to the Vesper George Art School where I made up my mind that I would make art a

"While I was studying, I worked in a large advertising agency, but I wasn't satisfied. I wanted to do newspaper work, so I landed a lob on the NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE, after doing a turn on the art staff of the BOSTON TRAVELER. Later I was the art director of a national magazine, but there my flare for cartooning was somewhat stifled, so I free-lanced around until I broke into this field, as the Art Editor of Funnies, Inc., the outfit that creates the features that appear in MARVEL COMICS."

"But Bill," we asked, "where did you pick up the idea for the SUB-MARINER?" returned to the east coast, I found just as much adventure as I did in the west. What I mean is, I got myself a job on a seagoing tramp that went from Maine to Florida.

"On one run, when we were still a day out of Florida, one of those native Floridian hurricanes hit us broadsides. It shook that old tub like it was a toy. I happened to be at the wheel, and the full force of the storm spun it like a top. One of the bigger men took over for the minute, for there was another job to be done. The wireless antenna had been blown down, and it meant a climb up the slippery rope stays to the top of the mast. I was elected.

"I climbed into my oilskins and started up. The wind cut my face and hands, and I had all I could do to hold on. The rigging was wet and slippery. My job was to carry that loose wire up and tie it back to the mast. Well, I finally reached the top, and stood upright on the cross-trees. The wind lashed my oils and they cracked like thunder. Suddenly, after I had done my job, I felt myself being swept off my perch into thin air!

"I grabbed, and luckily caught the end of a rope. I swung there, half dazed for a moment, only to realize that my hand was slowly slipping off the wet hemp. Below I could see the washed deck glaring up at me. The cold wind had numbed my spirit, and a strange feeling came over me, I felt I was not alone.

"Something seemed to take hold of me and lift me, bodily, back onto the crosstrees. I lay there for a moment, and when I finally got a grip on myself. I looked up to see who, or what, had helped me.

"THERE WAS NO ONE THERE!"

in Bill's eyes as he spoke. "Whew, that was a corker, Bill. But, where does the SUB-MARINER come in?"

He smiled that slow smile of his and said.
"Who knows? To me it was HE who helped
me that night.

"For the duration of that trip I was constantly reminded of Coleridge's ANCIENT MARINER, the poem that tells about the supernatural powers of the sea. I suppose that had some bearing on my title, SUB-MARINER.

"To me, I owe my life to that something—whether wind, a strong subconscious motion, or a supernatural being. But I shall always think of it as my triend ... THE SUB-MARINER!"





















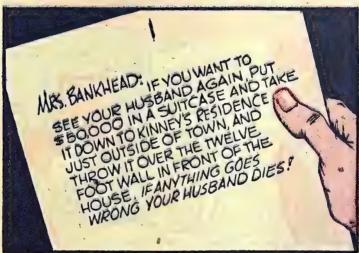






















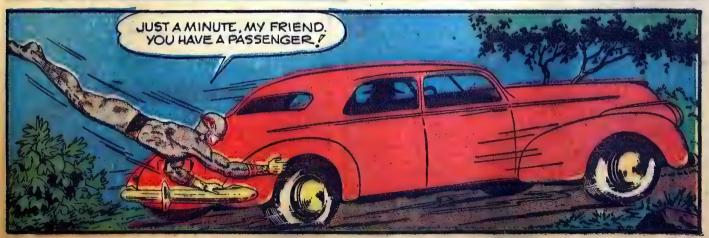


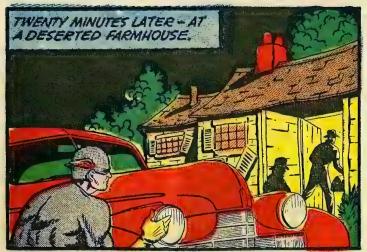












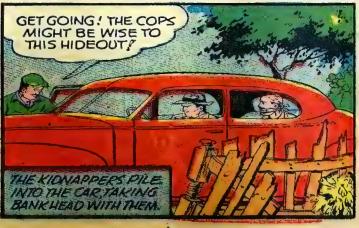








































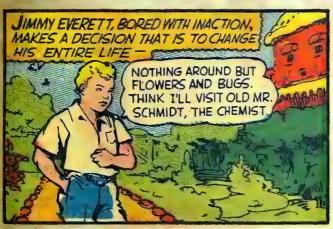
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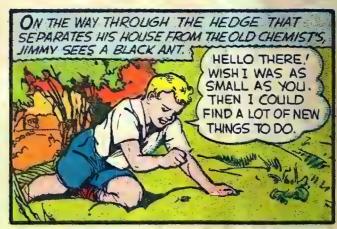
SALLING DIFFERENT!

EACH MONTH IN.

COMMON TO THE PACKET OF TH





























































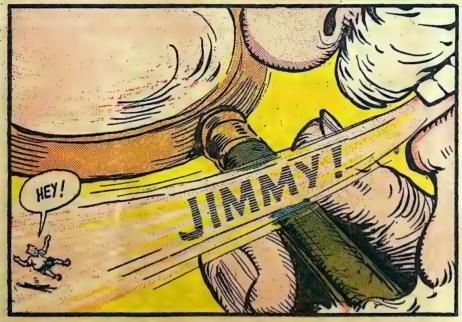






















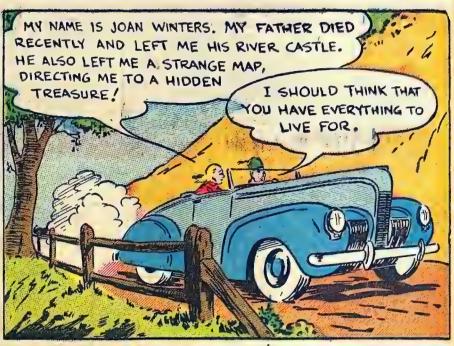
















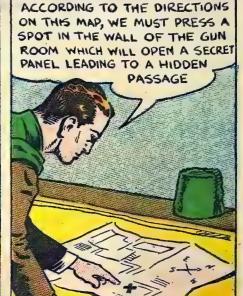
















































IN A FLASH MANTOR ENLARGES THE KEY-HOLE, AND AS HE STEPS THROUGH IT HE GESTURES, AND THE SWORD CHANGES TO A PIECE OF SILK.



















THE WATER MIRACULOUSLY
DISAPPEARS, LEAVING JOAN
STANDING ON THE BOTTOM
OF THE CHANNEL,

COME! RUN UPIN ANOTHER STAIRS AND PHONE
MINUTE I'D THE POLICE!
HAVE BEEN THE GHOSTS
THAT ABYSS.































THE PUZZLED YOUNG
PHYSICIAN HESITANTLY
STOOPS DOWN TO EXAMINE
THE MARBLE-LIKE CORPAE..
SUDDENLY HE STIFFENS AND
HIS ENTIRE BEING SHUDDERS
AS HE REALIZES THE
AWFUL TRUTH...









DR CASTLE ATTEMPTS TO DISCARD ALL THOUGHTS OF THE STRANGE MYSTERY, BUT EVERYWHERE HE GOES, HE IS REMINDED OF THE CATASTROPHE!



GOR THE NEWSPAPERS HAD SNATCHED ON TO THE MYSTERIOUS DEATHS AS A MOUSE SNAPS AT A PIECE OF CHEESE, AND AL-READY SCREAMING HEADLINES WERE PLAYING UP THE HIDEOUS MENACE...



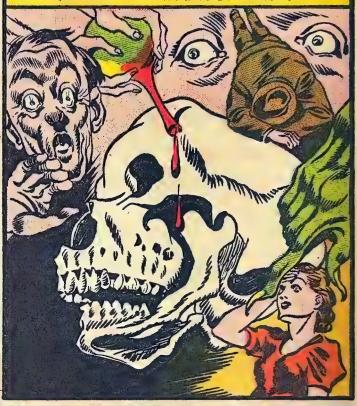
T'S THE ELEMENT
OF MYSTERY WHICH
CAUSES THE PANIC!
WHEN THE CAUSE
OF THE DEATHS
ARE FOUND,
THE REST WILL
BE EASY!

SECONDS LATER, IN THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF THE DAILY HERALD...

HELLO...YES, THIS IS THE CITY DESK... WHO? DR. CASTLE?



CHILDREN ARE KEPT OUT OF THE STREETS...
DOORS ARE LOCKED AT ALL TIMES...CITIZENS ARE DEMANDING PROTECTION FROM
THIS WEIRD AND MYSTERIOUS DEATH!...
VIGILANTE COMMITTEES STORM THE CITY
HALL AS THE PANIC SPREADS!



DEALIZING THAT WITH EACH PASSING SEC-OND, MORE LIVES ARE BEING SNUFFED OUT... DR. CASTLE SNAPS INTO ACTION!



YES... I HAVE A CURE FOR THIS NEW MALADY-A BLOOD BANK... I HAVE STORED A HUNDRED QUARTS OF BLOOD OF ALL TYPES!













THE FIGURE LOOKS ABOUT THE ROOM... THEN MAKES A LUNGE



THE FIERY MASK SLOWLY TIGHTEN
AROUND THE COLD FLESH OF THE
MYSTERIOUS FIGURE!



BUT SUDDENLY THE ROOM IS TURNED INTO A HOWLING INFERNO AS MANY PAIRS OF COLD, CLAMMY HANDS ENCIRCLE THE BEWILDERED MASK...





























FOR HOURS THE FIERY
MASK CIRCULATES
ABOUT THE STREETS...
EVER SEARCHING -UNTIL FINALLY HE
SPIES HIS QUARRY!





THE CREATURES HEAD THE

CAR PAST THE CITY LIMITS ..

OVER DESOLATE COUNTRY

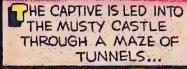


























































MD ONCE MORE A CITY SLUMBERS PEACEFULLY HAPPY THAT A DREAD, MYSTERIOUS MALADY HAD VANISHED FROM ITS MIDST, WHILE A MIGHTY FIGURE HOVERS ABOUT, HIS CAPE FLUTTERING IN THE BREEZE LIKE A PROTECTIVE CLOUD... FOR THE FIERY MASK HAD ONCE MORE RESCUED ITS PEOPLE.



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